AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 10/054,747

Filing Date: January 22, 2002

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONTROL WEEDS

Page 2 Dkt: 564.002US1

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

a weed contacting member suspendable within the body of water proximate a bed of weeds; and

a drive member for moving The weed control system of claim 8, wherein the water activated means moves the weed contacting member in a repeating, circular arc pattern over the bed of weeds, the weed contacting member freely hanging down from a support member located at a surface of the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds, wherein the weed contacting member includes an elongate member extending in a parallel direction relative to a length of the support member.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The weed control system of claim 1 8, wherein the weed contacting member is flexibly attached to the support member which is located approximately on or above a surface of the body of water.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The weed control system of claim $\frac{1}{8}$, wherein the weed contacting member includes a cross-bar having a plurality of tines extending from a body of the cross-bar.
- 4. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:
- a weed contacting member suspendable within the body of water proximate a bed of weeds; and
- a drive member for moving the weed contacting member in a repeating, circular arc pattern over the bed of weeds, the weed contacting member freely hanging down from a support member located at a surface of the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds, wherein the weed contacting member

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 10/054,747

Filing Date: January 22, 2002

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONTROL WEEDS

Page 3 Dkt: 564.002US1

includes an elongate member extending in a parallel direction relative to a length of the support member, wherein the drive member is reversible and is configured to change a direction of movement of the weed contacting member when a pre-determined time limit is reached.

5. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

a weed contacting member suspendable within the body of water proximate a bed of weeds; and

a drive member for moving the weed contacting member in a repeating, circular arc pattern over the bed of weeds, the weed contacting member freely hanging down from a support member located at a surface of the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds, wherein the weed contacting member includes an elongate member extending in a parallel direction relative to a length of the support member, wherein the drive member includes a pair of opposing nozzles which alternately eject a jet of water to drive the drive member.

6. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

a weed contacting member suspendable within the body of water proximate a bed of weeds; and

a drive member for moving the weed contacting member in a repeating, circular arc pattern over the bed of weeds, the weed contacting member freely hanging down from a support member located at a surface of the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds, wherein the weed contacting member includes an elongate member extending in a parallel direction relative to a length of the support member, wherein the weed contacting member includes a plurality of tines disposed along a length of the elongate member and running in a perpendicular direction relative to a motion of the weed contacting member.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 10/054,747

Filing Date: January 22, 2002

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONTROL WEEDS

Page 4 Dkt: 564.002US1

7. (Previously Presented) The weed control system of claim 5, wherein the support member is at least six feet long and the weed contacting member is disposed along at least a portion of the length of the support member.

8. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

a weed contacting member including an elongate member suspended from a support member and extending along the support member in a parallel direction relative to a length of the support member; and

water activated means including a nozzle which emits water to develop thrust for moving the support member and the weed contacting member in a repeating pattern through the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly contacts any weeds in a path of the weed contacting member.

9. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

a weed contacting member including an elongate member suspended from a support member and extending in a parallel direction relative to a length of the support member; and

water activated means including a nozzle which emits water to develop thrust for moving the weed contacting member in a repeating pattern through the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly contacts any weeds in a path of the weed contacting member;

wherein water activated means further comprises a second nozzle and a water pump coupled to the nozzle and the second nozzle which open in generally opposite directions from each other and which are alternately activated.

10. (Previously Presented) The weed control system of claim 9, wherein the weed contacting member is suspended from the support member which is rotatably coupled to a stationary unit proximate the body of water and which extends over a surface of the body of water.

Serial Number: 10/054,747 Filing Date: January 22, 2002

METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONTROL WEEDS Title:

(Previously Presented) The weed control system of claim 9, wherein water activated 11. means automatically changes a direction of movement of the weed contacting member when a pre-determined time limit is reached.

- (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system 12. comprising:
 - a support member;
- a buoyant member coupled to the support member to keep the support member at or above a surface of the body of water;

an elongate weed contacting member suspended from the support member to descend beneath the surface of the body of water and extending parallel relative to a length of the support member; and

a driver to move the support member across the surface of the body of water in a repeating pattern such that the weed contacting member also moves in a repeating pattern and repeatedly brushes against any weeds beneath the support member.

- (Original) The weed control system of claim 12, wherein the support member includes 13. an elongated pipe having a first end rotatably coupled to a stationary unit proximate the body of water.
- (Original) The weed control system of claim 12, wherein the driver includes a water 14. activated driver coupled to the support member.
- (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system 15. comprising:
 - a support member;
- a buoyant member coupled to the support member to keep the support member at or above a surface of the body of water;
- a weed contacting member suspended from the support member to descend beneath the surface of the body of water; and

Filing Date: January 22, 2002

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONTROL WEEDS

a driver to move the support member across the surface of the body of water in a repeating pattern such that the weed contacting member also moves in a repeating pattern and repeatedly brushes against any weeds beneath the support member, wherein the driver includes a reversible propeller.

Page 6 Dkt: 564.002US1

- 16. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:
 - a support member;
- a buoyant member coupled to the support member to keep the support member at or above a surface of the body of water;
- a weed contacting member suspended from the support member to descend beneath the surface of the body of water; and
- a driver to move the support member across the surface of the body of water in a repeating pattern such that the weed contacting member also moves in a repeating pattern and repeatedly brushes against any weeds beneath the support member, wherein the driver includes a motor-driven wheel which rolls over a floor of the body of water.
- 17. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:
 - a weed contacting member;

means for moving the weed contacting member through the body of water proximate a bed of weeds; and

a controller which, in response to a timer, periodically reverses the direction of the means for moving such that the weed contacting member is repeatedly moved back and forth across the bed of weeds and such that if the weed contacting member gets stuck within the water, the controller will reverse the direction of the means for moving and the weed contacting member will become free once the timer reaches a time limit.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 10/054,747

Filing Date: January 22, 2002

tle: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONTROL WEEDS

Page 7 Dkt: 564.002US1

18. (Original) The weed control system of claim 17, wherein the weed contacting member is suspended from a support member such that the weed contacting member brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds.

- 19. (Original) The weed control system of claim 17, wherein the means for moving the weed contacting member includes a water activated means.
- 20. (Original) The weed control system of claim 17, wherein the means for moving the weed contacting member includes a motor-driven means.
- 21. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

an elongated support member positioned parallel to a surface of a body of water and positionable at or above the surface, the elongated support member having a first end rotatably coupled to a stationery unit proximate the body of water;

an elongate weed contacting member suspended from the support member and located beneath the surface, the elongate weed contacting member extending parallel relative to a length of the support member; and

a reversible driver coupled proximate a second end of the elongated support member to drive the elongated support member in a rotating manner repeatedly back and forth across the surface of a section of the body of water such that the weed contacting member is repeatedly pulled back and forth beneath the surface of the section to repeatedly contact any weeds located in that section, wherein the reversible driver is water activated.

- 22. (Previously Presented) The weed control system of claim 21, wherein the reversible driver includes a pair of nozzles.
- 23. (Original) The weed control system of claim 21, wherein the weed contacting member includes a cross-bar having a plurality of tines extending from a body of the cross-bar.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 10/054,747

Filing Date: January 22, 2002

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONTROL WEEDS

Page 8 Dkt: 564.002US1

24. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

an elongated support member positioned parallel to a surface of a body of water and positionable at or above the surface, the elongated support member having a first end rotatably coupled to a stationery unit proximate the body of water;

an elongate weed contacting member suspended from the support member and located beneath the surface, the elongate weed contacting member extending parallel relative to a length of the support member; and

a reversible driver coupled proximate a second end of the elongated support member to drive the elongated support member in a rotating manner repeatedly back and forth across the surface of a section of the body of water such that the weed contacting member is repeatedly pulled back and forth beneath the surface of the section to repeatedly contact any weeds located in that section, wherein the reversible driver is motor driven.

Claims 25-31 (Cancelled).

32. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

a weed contacting member suspendable within the body of water proximate a bed of weeds; and

a drive member for automatically moving the weed contacting member in a repeating, circular arc pattern over the bed of weeds, the weed contacting member freely hanging down from a support member located at a surface of the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds, wherein the drive member includes a reversible propeller.

33. (Previously Presented) A weed control system for a body of water, the system comprising:

a weed contacting member suspendable within the body of water proximate a bed of weeds; and

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 10/054,747 Filing Date: January 22, 2002

METHOD AND SYSTEM TO CONTROL WEEDS

Page 9 Dkt: 564.002US1

a drive member for automatically moving the weed contacting member in a repeating, circular arc pattern over the bed of weeds, the weed contacting member freely hanging down from a support member located at a surface of the body of water such that the weed contacting member repeatedly brushes against any weeds in the bed of weeds, wherein the drive member includes a motor-driven wheel which rolls over a floor of the body of water.